

**ABSTRACT**

An integrated marking system is described wherein means for marking or encoding information, preferably in the form of a plurality of machines, are linked and controlled in conjunction with means for processing information. Essentially, the means for processing information can be a software program, implemented via a single computer or a computer network. Likewise, the means for linking and controlling the aforementioned machines is possible via the software in conjunction with the same computer or network. Despite the numerous advantages provided by this system, this level of functionality and control was heretofore unseen in the marking industry.